Docket No.: 613242000900

(PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Gerd BARTOSZYK

Application No.: 10/577,603

Filed: (Int'l) October 14, 2004

For: USE OF SELECTIVE OPIATE RECEPTOR

MODULATORS IN THE TREATMENT OF

NEUROPATHY

Confirmation No.: 5390

Art Unit: 1614

Examiner: Bong-Sook Baek

EXPEDITED PROCEDURE -- EXAMINING GROUP 1614

## AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116

MS AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Madam:

## INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This is in response to the final Office Action dated December 16, 2008, for which a response is due on March 16, 2009. This response is filed within two months of the issuance of the final Office Action and therefore qualifies for expedited review. Accordingly, this response is timely filed. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims, as amended, in light of the remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 4 of this paper.

sd-456746